

counseling parents toward the use of stimulant medications? If individual schools exceed the recognized percentages by multiples of 5 or 10 or more; what action should be taken?

What information do parents of ADD and ADHD children have to base decisions regarding treatment? How did they first become aware of ADD and ADHD? What counseling have they received and where did it come from? What kind of cooperation exist between schools and clinicians?

What benefits of Stimulant medications do teachers really see? Improved Academics? Improved behavior? Which is most important to the teacher?

Do parents who choose not to medicate their children feel harassed for their decision?

Ritalin has been commercially available since the fifties. Why can't we establish the long and short term side effects of the drug?

Congressman Talent, your prompt response to this matter is greatly appreciated.

U.S. GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE—A LOYAL FRIEND TO CONGRESS

HON. MARTIN FROST

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 9, 1996

Mr. FROST. Mr. Speaker, the Appropriations Committee recently recommended that the U.S. Government Printing Office look for additional opportunities to privatize its operations. Already the GPO contracts out between 75 percent and 80 percent of all printing jobs it receives.

The GPO has one of the finest performing procurement operations of any in the U.S. Government, and GPO saves the taxpayers millions of dollars every year through this process.

The only work that continues to be done inhouse at GPO is work that would be very difficult and very expensive to contract out. The GPO performs almost all congressional work inhouse, working closely with the House, and Senate leadership on an hourly basis to ensure that Congress' business can be transacted each day.

What kind of control would we have over contracted printing. Would we get the CONGRESSIONAL RECORD, conference reports, business calendars, and bills on time? The GPO keeps personnel on standby to meet all of Congress' needs and contingencies regardless of the hour of the day or night.

How many contractors could do that? And, at what cost would it be to the Government?

The U.S. Government Printing Office charges only its costs to do congressional work. Contractors would charge cost plus a profit.

More than 100 years ago, most congressional printing was contracted out, and it was a disastrous program. Work was late, some of it never got done, and contractors charged outrageous prices.

The GPO was created to put an end to that very expensive and corrupt process. It has been an incredible success and a truly loyal servant to the U.S. Congress.

With the GPO's outstanding record, we need to take a long and hard critical look at proposals to privatize congressional printing.

THE SOCIAL SECURITY TRUST FUNDS NEED OUR HELP NOW

HON. WILLIAM M. THOMAS

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

Tuesday, July 9, 1996

Mr. THOMAS. Mr. Speaker, with the recent issuance of the 1996 annual report of the Board of Trustees of the Federal Old-Age, Survivors, and Disability Insurance [OASDI] Trust Funds, it is time to heed the warning that this report provides. The funds will be fully depleted by 2029. In addition to the loss of the trust funds that year, the 2029 annual Social Security tax revenues will only be adequate to cover three-quarters of the amount necessary to pay the OASDI benefits for that year.

If we don't act now, our retirement system that employers and employees have paid into since 1937 may become extinct. Today's young workers already have little faith that they will ever be able to collect Social Security benefits. In fact, in a recent survey, workers indicated that they believe they have a better chance of seeing a UFO than collecting Social Security benefits.

The number of covered workers receiving benefits has grown dramatically but the number of workers paying into the funds to cover each retired worker is shrinking dramatically as well. In 1945, the system had over 1 million recipients with approximately 41.9 workers paying into the fund for each retired worker receiving benefits. In 1995, there were over 43 million recipients with 3.3 beneficiaries supporting each retired worker. By 2070, there will be over 96 million recipients and only 1.8 current workers per each recipient.

Let's look at it from another perspective. In 1945, 2 out of every 100 covered workers were actually Social Security recipients. In 1995, there were 31 recipients for every 100

workers and in 2070, with the baby boomers, it will top off at 55 recipients out of every 100 covered workers. In 75 years, more covered workers will be retired than working. Please keep in mind that 41 years earlier, the fund was depleted and payments to recipients will be coming directly out of Social Security taxes paid in that year with the shortfall being made up with other taxpayer funds. If these funds are covering the Social Security shortfall, that means that less dollars are available for other entitlement spending—including Medicare and Medicaid—and discretionary spending.

The same time that the trust funds are gone and the shortfall is being made up with Federal dollars, Americans are living longer. Retirees will be collecting Social Security benefits for a greater length of time. In 1940, the average male did not even live long enough to collect Social Security benefits—average life expectancy 61.4 years; and females did not collect it for very long—average life expectancy 65.7 years. By 2070, the average man will live 78.4 years and the average woman 84.1 years. They will start collecting Social Security retirement at age 67.

Changes to the system need to be made now. Of course, the trustees look for solutions in America's checkbook and tell us that the system can be saved if we increase Social Security taxes approximately 2 percent during 1996.

There is a better approach. My Social Security IRA bill, H.R. 2971, is a modern plan. It incorporates the best of the present Social Security system and also provides the worker with a role in personal retirement planning. The worker's portion of the Social Security tax is placed in a federal insured depository institution of the worker's choice.

If today's average salaried worker pays into the Social Security IRA account for 45 years, upon reaching the future retirement age of 67 years, the worker will have accumulated approximately \$172,000 in the account—converted to present dollars and computed using a 3 percent annual rate of return. If these funds are rolled over upon retirement, into an annuity program, the monthly annuity payment to the retiree will be \$854. At retirement, the worker will also receive a reduced Social Security monthly annuity. Please note that the present monthly Social Security benefit for the average worker is \$886.

The time is ripe for change. The OASDI trust funds are in trouble. Let's not wait until it's too late. We need to make a change now if we want to save the Social Security system. Social Security IRA offers an alternative.